

*Appl. No. 10/027,721*

*Amendment dated February 27, 2004*

*Reply to Office Action mailed January 9, 2004 (Paper No. 11)*

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The above-identified patent application has been reviewed in light of the Examiner's Action mailed 9 January 2004 (Paper No. 11). Claims 1, 3-8 and 10-12 were pending in the application. Claims 7 and 12 have been amended herein. Claims 8 and 13-17 have been cancelled without intending to abandon or dedicate any patentable subject matter to the public. Accordingly, following entry of the foregoing amendments, Claims 1, 3-7 and 10-12 will be pending. As set forth more fully below, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections of the claims are respectfully requested.

**Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

The Examiner has rejected Claims 7, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,640,864 (hereinafter "Miyamoto"). Applicants have amended Claims 7 and 12 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 8 noted to be allowable by the Examiner. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Based upon the foregoing, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and such disposition is respectfully requested. In the event that a telephone conversation would further prosecution and/or expedite allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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